

File #1845

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY	Indochina	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>
SUBJECT	President Tam's Plans to Form a Non-Elective National Assembly	DATE DISTR.	18 September 1953
25X1		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.	<input type="text"/>	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED	<input type="text"/>	REFERENCES	

BY CABLE

25X1

SOURCE:

25X1

1. President Tam plans the formation of a non-elective National Assembly representing all political and religious groups in Vietnam, but he has not made clear by whom and in what manner the assembly delegates are to be selected. The purpose of this assembly is to draw up a list of candidates for the Vietnamese delegation to the Paris negotiations, from which list Bao Dai would designate the delegates, and to assist Tam in the general elections at a later date.
2. The nationalists are in a dilemma as to whether they will participate in Tam's assembly not knowing the conditions for its formation. They have only Tam's word that he had Bao Dai's backing, as no word has been received from Bao Dai or his personal representative. The current trend is to try to stall a decision pending the expected arrival of Buu Loc on 12 September to see if Loc brings any direct word from Bao Dai. The nationalists are undecided as to whether to continue the congress simultaneously with the assembly.
3. Pham Cong Tac will support Bao Dai as soon as the latter's intentions are known, but the rest of the congress is split. Nguyen Ton Hoan and Ngo Dinh Nhu will probably oppose participation in the Tam assembly even if approved by Bao Dai. Phuc Quoc Hoi opinion is split. The party itself may split openly. Phuong may side with Hoan and Nhu while Pham Xuan Thai represents the party in the Tam assembly, but covertly party unity will remain. The position of the other delegates is unknown.
4. On 11 September Tran Van Tuyen and Dang Van Sung flew to Tay Ninh to consult with Tac to try to undermine Tam and persuade Tac to call a National Assembly in the name of Bao Dai. Tac is returning to Saigon on 12 September and will make known his decision on 13 or 14 September after talks with Tam and Buu Loc, if the latter arrives.

25X1

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

25X1

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY






- 2 -

5. Democratic Republic of Vietnam pamphlets denouncing the National Congress were distributed in large number in Saigon.

25X1

25X1

 Comment.  the impression that Tam's return has confused the nationalists who tend to refuse to believe that Tam has Bao Dai's backing which he claims. Most feel the new situation calls for new faces more representative than the Tam government, and oppose Tam as head of the assembly and leader of the negotiations, but they are reluctant to oppose Bao Dai. 25X1

 for background information on the National Congress.

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY